

## MANAGING PACKET DATA INTERCONNECTIONS IN MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS

### Abstract

5 Data interconnections are managed in a mobile communications network having multiple packet control function entities (PCFs) and multiple packet data serving nodes (PDSNs), wherein each PCF and PDSN communicates signaling messages according to a mobile signaling protocol. Information for a Mobile Subscriber (MS) is received. The MS is associated with a same one of the PDSNs when the MS moves from a first area covered by a first PCF to a second area covered by a second PCF. It is determined that a  
10 first PCF has issued a first connection request on behalf of an MS. As a result of the first connection request, a selection protocol is executed a first time to select a PDSN that corresponds to the MS. It is determined that a second PCF has issued a second connection request on behalf of the MS. The selection protocol is executed a second time to select the same PDSN that was selected as a result of the first connection request.